

CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims.

A2 1. (Amended) A method for coordinating media and messaging operations in an information processing system, comprising the steps of:

streaming media and messages in an information processing system from a switching mechanism to a plurality of user nodes, the user nodes having similar communication capabilities;

receiving a plurality of unsynchronized media and messages from said plurality of user nodes in a synchronizer;

controlling the streaming of media and messages from said switching mechanism to said plurality of user nodes using said synchronizer.

7. (Amended) A system for coordinating media and messaging in an information processing system, comprising:

A3 a plurality of user nodes associated with an information processing system, said plurality of users having the ability to communicate media and messages, said plurality of user nodes having similar communication capabilities;

a switching mechanism for streaming media and messages to said plurality of user nodes; and

a synchronizer for receiving media and messages from said plurality of user nodes and controlling said switching mechanism in response to received media and messages.

16. (Amended) A system including a computer network, comprising:

A4 a media device;

a display device;

a computer coupled to said media device and to the computer network and for:
establishing a streaming media region on said display device;

receiving a first streaming media transmission from a first media source through the computer network and, in response thereto, causing said media device to output said first streaming media transmission;

receiving a second streaming media transmission from a second streaming media session through the computer network and, in response thereto, causing said display device to display content associated with said second streaming media transmission in said streaming media region; and

synchronizing said first streaming media transmission and said second streaming transmission for controlling the distribution of said first streaming media transmission and said second streaming media transmission,

wherein said computer comprises instructions and circuitry for establishing a browser region on said display device.

17. (Amended) The system of Claim 16 wherein said streaming media region is a real time continuously open bi-directional communications chat region embedded in said browser region.

24. (Amended) A method for synchronizing the streaming of media transmission to create a message thread, comprising the steps of:

- (a) transmitting a first base message;
 - (b) transmitting second response messages and third responsive messages, said second response messages being hierarchically responsive to said first base message and said third responsive messages being hierarchy responsive to said second messages; and
- associating with one or more of said first base message or said second response messages or said third response messages a predetermined streaming media transmission.